

**Kentucky Technical Advisory Committee on Therapy Services
July 24, 2014 Meeting Notes**

Advisory Committee Meeting 8:30 am-9:30 am

Members in Attendance: Dr. Beth Ennis

Members Attending via Conference Call: Teresa Justice, Leslie Sizemore

Others in Attendance: Joni Connelly, Courtney Cundiff, Lyris Cunningham, Stacie Grant, Helen Homberger, Cynthia Lee, Vaughn Payne, Roberta Price, Rebecca Randall, Scott Sageser, Deborah Simpson, and Catherann Terry

Conference Call Attendees: Pam Marshall, Lara Peyton, and Michelle Sanborn

Purpose of Meeting: Purpose of the Therapy TAC; Membership; Progress re Recommendations to the Cabinet; Provider Enrollment; Therapy Assistant rate differential; Constituent Issues

Introductions

Minutes

June meeting notes will be emailed to members for approval at the next meeting.

Purpose of the Technical Advisory Committee on Therapy Services:

Dr. Beth Ennis reviewed the purpose of the committee as the advisory body on therapy services to the Medical Assistance Committee. She noted an increase in individual provider issues and observed challenges in getting right resources and finding solutions. Dr. Ennis stated specifics are needed, ie. to refer to the right resources.

Membership:

Catherann Terry will send the TAC application for new members to Dr. Ennis for forwarding to KPTA and KOTA. Bethany Berry has been recommended by KSHA to replace Sherry Hoza. The KPTA and KOTA do have recommendations for replacement of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy representatives on the committee. The following members are leaving the TAC and will be replaced by new members: David Boyce (Physical Therapy appointment), Leslie Sizemore (Occupational Therapy appointment) and Sherry Hoza (Speech Therapy appointment).

Meeting Changes:

Dr. Ennis proposed changes to the meeting times, to move the times to a different day of the week during months when the MAC is not meeting. She stated members would be polled for dates and times. Catherann Terry reported responsibility for meetings of the committee will transition to the Division of Policy and Operations in the near future.

Cabinet Response to Therapy TAC Recommendations:

Dr. Beth Ennis provided the following update: The Cabinet reported there should not be 30 day recertification periods for therapy services. Recertification should not be needed before 20 visits are used. Fee for service is still applying thirty day recertification. Case examples were requested from meeting participants.

Constituent:

Pam Marshall asked if any agency is successfully billing and getting payments for the new fee schedule services provided to children under the new DMS provider types. Ms. Marshall stated Fee for Service and Managed Care billing and payment is not working, ie. new provider types are not getting paid for services. Dr. Beth Ennis requested that Ms. Marshall forward specifics to her by email. Pam Marshall reported CoventryCares, when asked to find out why one Supported Community Living (SCL) provider had to rebill a

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claim 4-5 times, found a SCL provider was not contracted corrected. Pam Marshall indicated her agency had stopped all Fee for Service.

Dr. Ennis asked participants if other providers are having success in billing straight Medicaid member services. She noted most may still be billing EPSDT Special Services. Dr. Beth Ennis planned to discuss therapy services overlap with Autism Services with the chairman of the Technical Advisory Committee on Behavioral Services.

Members noted problems involving transition in enrollment changes from waiver and straight Medicaid to MCO plan assignment. Teresa Justice reported issues with preauthorization involving timelines from submission to getting the response back, but was researching potential provider causes. She noted a previous issue involving change from CoventryCares to WellCare was resolved.

Members indicated no concerns with provider enrollment at this time, noted many providers are choosing not to enroll in new provider types to avoid challenges with Medicaid billing, and reported enrollment takes six months if application is correct and timely.

Leslie Sizemore reported therapy services billing is working for adults. Is it working for children? She stated plans to clarify whether straight and MCO billing is working for the new provider types.

Occupational Therapy Exclusion:

Dr. Ennis provided the following update: Stuart Owen reported the regulation was approved in place on 7/7/2014. Catherann Terry will check with Stuart for details.

Rate Differential

Dr. Beth Ennis and Teresa Justice discussed the hospital default to the reimbursement rate for the therapist in cases when assistants have performed the services. Ms. Justice reported the hospital rate defaults to the therapist although the COTA performs the service. Members asked the MCO participants to respond to the question about which MCOs are applying the differential. Teresa Justice reported WellCare and CoventryCares are applying the rate differential.

Pam Marshall noted MCO contracts are different and may bill differently. Scott Sageser reported the new provider types are not set up yet in the system, there are issues to work through, so many claims are processing there will be some errors but not continuous denials.

Other Constituent Concerns:

Members discussed whether a Certificate of Need is required before a therapy services provider can participate in Medicaid as a Multiple Specialty Group provider. Dr. Ennis suggested an information sheet be developed for new provider types to include responses to provider questions about provider qualifications, CON requirements, and differences MCO enrollment of individual and group providers. She requested policy requirements for provider enrollment from each MCO.

Next Meeting:

Dr. Ennis stated three new members will be approved by the next meeting. At today's MAC meeting, she plans to address provider fear of billing fraud related to the rate differential.

Members will be polled by email about August meeting times to avoid Thursdays.

The September meeting will be at 8:30 am on 9/25/2014 prior to the MAC.